

THE LABORS OF HERCULES

GRAMMAR ASSUMED:

*Fourth Declension; Ablatives of Place
from Which & Separation*

WHEELLOCK: CHAPTER 20

Hercules (Heracles in Greek) is one of the best known and most remarkable characters from classical mythology.

Quis nōmen Herculis nōn audīvit? Dē magnīs factīs illius nunc pauca dīcam.

5 Herculem, virum Graecum cuius vīrēs erant extraordi-
nāriae, in servitūtem fortūna dūxerat. Eurystheus eī mi-
serō duodecim gravēs labōrēs dederat. Sed Herculēs metū
nōn victus erat; neque novīs animālibus terrērī poterat,
neque ab hominibus eius generis quod numquam sceleri-
bus caret. Magnum leōnem sōlīs manibus Herculēs superā-
vit; celerem cervam, cuius cornua aurea erant, cēpit et ex
10 eō locō in quō eam invēnerat Mycēnās trāxit. Deinde ille
missus est ab Eurystheō contrā Cerberum, ācrem canem;
etiam hunc āmovēre poterat ab ipsā portā Plūtōnis!

Post haec et alia facta Herculēs labōribus liberātus est.
Quod autem praemium eī datum est? Nūllum. Quī erat
15 frūctus labōrum eius? Glōria memoriaque perpetua in
versibus poētārum.

VOCABULARY:

Herculēs, -is, m.: Hercules, great Greek hero famous for his strength, appetite, and obtuseness

extraordinārius, -a, -um: not common, beyond the norm

Eurystheus, -eī, m.: Eurystheus, king of Mycenae, cousin of Hercules; Juno, who disliked Hercules, had contrived to make Eurystheus his master

leō, -ōnis, m.: lion

cerva, -ae, f.: deer, hind

aureus, -a, -um: golden

Mycēnae, -ārum, f. pl.: Mycenae, a city in Greece; **Mycēnās** = to the city of Mycenae (accusative of place to which without **ad**)

Cerberus, -ī, m.: Cerberus, 3-headed dog guarding the entrance to the underworld

canis, -is, m. or f.: dog

Plūtō, -ōnis, m.: Pluto, god of the underworld

praemium, -iī, n.: reward